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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/974,883	10/12/2001	Sayling Wen	3626-0225P	7636
2292	7590	04/19/2005	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			ZHOU, TING	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2173	

DATE MAILED: 04/19/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/974,883

Applicant(s)

WEN ET AL.

Examiner

Ting Zhou

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 02 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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DETAILED ACTION

1. The Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed on 2 February 2005 under 37 CFR 1.53(d) based on parent Application No. 09/974,883 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.
2. The amendments filed on 2 February 2005, submitted with the filing of the RCE have been received and entered. The applicant has added new claims 16-20.
3. Claims 1-20 as amended are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1, 7 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1, 7, and 12 recite the limitation "the type" in lines 8 and 11 of claim 1, lines 7 and 9 of claim 7 and lines 8 and 10 of claim 12. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

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The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kraft et al. U.S. Patent 6,084,585.

Referring to claims 1, 7 and 12, as best understood by the examiner, Kraft et al. teach a system, method and device comprising a user interface (UI), which accepts an accessing request from the user and automatically provides the user at least one appropriate prompt for the user to follow the prompt to send the accessing request for the computer readable data in one action so that the user only needs to follow the prompt to complete the accessing request (user access request such as a data entry request via selection of a menu field are accepted and upon receipt of this user action, an appropriate prompt, i.e. drop-down list of menu entries corresponding to the selected menu field is displayed so that users can follow the prompt to select one of the menu entries with one action, i.e. selection of a displayed menu entry) (column 4, line 37 – column 5, line 36); a categorizing module, which automatically determines the type of the computer readable data according to the accessing request (upon detecting action with the interface, the received user action is categorized, or determined to be and passed to one of four possible paths, namely, data entry path, expand form path, contract form path, or submit form path, depending on the type of user action received, according to the type of user action) (column 5, lines 1-10); and an accessing module, which accesses the computer readable data according to the type of the

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computer readable data (once the type of the received user action is determined, i.e. whether it is a data entry, expand form, contract form or submit form path type entry, the user entered accessing request, or action is passed to the appropriate sequence; for example, if it was determined that the user action was a selection of a menu field or entry of data into a data field, the data entry path is used, if it was determined that the user action was the selection of a “submit” key, the submit form path is invoked, and so on) (column 4, line 44 – column 7, line 30).

Referring to claims 2, 8 and 13, Kraft et al. teach the accessing request is a save request to store the computer readable data (selection of the “Submit” button which can submit data by storing them on the storage device) (column 7, lines 12-30), and the accessing module stores the computer readable data to a corresponding data set according to the type of the computer readable data (when data is submitted, data is routed, or saved to the appropriate program according to the type of the data; for example, if the data is an expense report, it would be routed to the accounting department) (column 4, lines 44-49, column 6, lines 58 - column 7, line 30 and column 10, lines 44-52).

Referring to claims 3, 9 and 14, Kraft et al. teach the accessing request is a single-type list request to read in the computer readable data of the desired type, and the accessing module reads in the computer readable data of the desired type from the corresponding data set according to the computer readable data and displays the single-type list on the UI for the user (users can select a single type of menu entry to read in data of the type of information they want to enter) (column 4, lines 37-48 and column 5, lines 14-36 and further shown in Figure 2).

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Referring to claims 4, 10 and 15, Kraft et al. teach the accessing request is an all-type list request to read in a plurality of computer readable data and the accessing module read in the computer readable data of all types from the corresponding data sets according to the computer readable data types and displays the all-type list on the UI for the user (user accessing request, or action can be the selection of the “expand” key to read in additional row entry templates) (column 5, line 63 – column 6, line 19 and column 7, lines 62-67).

Referring to claims 5 and 11, Kraft et al. teach the one action refers to the action of hitting one key on a keyboard (column 3, lines 25-31, column 4, lines 58-62 and column 6, lines 58-60).

Referring to claim 6, Kraft et al. teach a storage device for storing computer readable data (column 3, lines 15-21 and column 7, lines 26-30).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 16-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kraft et al. U.S. Patent 6,084,585, as applied to claims 1, 7 and 12 above, and Moon et al. U.S. Patent 6,088,696.

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Referring to claims 16-20, Kraft et al. teach all of the limitations as applied to claim 1, 7 and 12 above. However, Kraft et al. fail to explicitly teach the type of the computer readable data includes at least two of a document file, an e-mail message file, and an image file. Moon et al. teach a graphical user interface that categorizes input by automatically determining the type of input data and accessing the data according to the type of the data (automatically receiving incoming mail by type and places the mail into appropriate directories according to that type) (Moon et al. column 1, lines 49-67 and column 4, lines 54-66) similar to that of Kraft et al. In addition, Moon et al. further teach the type of the computer readable data includes at least two of a document file, an e-mail message file, and an image file (the file module automatically recognizes and places the incoming mail into directories by the type of mail, which includes at least an E-mail and a document file such as a word processing data file attachment) (Moon et al.: column 4, lines 54-66). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Kraft et al. and Moon et al. before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the user interface that accepts and categorizes user access requests by type taught by Kraft et al. to include the categorization of data such as documents and emails of Moon et al. One would have been motivated to make such a combination in order to provide a useful filing system that conveniently categorizes and stores a plurality of data for easy retrieval and access.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed on 2 February 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive:

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8. Applicant asserts the present application discloses an intuitive computer data management system/method automatically providing at least one appropriate prompt to the user and that accordingly, the functions disclosed in the present invention are different from those of Kraft et al. The examiner respectfully disagrees. Kraft teaches allowing users to enter an access request, such as selection of a menu field and upon such selection, providing a prompt displaying a plurality of menu field entries for users to choose from. As an example, upon detecting a user access request, such as intention for data entry, from selection of a menu field, an appropriate prompt such as a corresponding drop-down menu list of menu entries is displayed, as recited in column 4, lines 44-54 and further shown Figure 4; this drop down list of appropriate menu entries for the selected menu field prompts the user to select a menu entry from the list with the an input device such as a mouse in order to complete the data entry intention and display the selected entry, as recited in column 5, lines 1-42. Therefore, the examiner respectfully contends that Kraft et al. teach the same functions of automatically providing at least one appropriate prompt for the user to follow to send the accessing request, as disclosed in the present application.

9. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 16-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

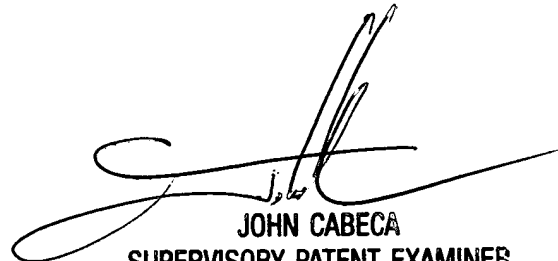
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ting Zhou whose telephone number is (571) 272-4058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached at (571) 272-4048. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-4058.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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